Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VICTOR 00355 211718Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-07 MCT-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /076 W
----------029837 211735Z /46
P 211447Z JUN 77
FM AMEBASY VICTORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 427
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSAY ANTANNANARIVO
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

S E C R E T VICTORIA 355

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR,MOPS,PINS,SE,TZ,CN
SUBJECT: REGIONAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SEYCHELLES

REF: A) VICTORIA 329 (NOTAL), B) DAR ES SALAAM 2415 (NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING VISITING WEST GERMAN JOURNALIST, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND ADMINISTRATION JAMES MICHEL, WHO WAS ONE OF LEADING FIGURES IN JUNE 5 COUP D'ETAT, HAS CONFIRMED THAT ARMED CADRE WHICH ASSAULTED POLICE ARMORIES HAD ALL RECEIVED MILITARY TRAINING IN TANZANIA. MICHEL IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THIS TRAINING TOOK PLACE BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER SEYCHELLES INDEPENDENCE IN JUNE 1976 AND INVOLVED "A FEW DOZEN" SECHELLOIS SUPPORTERS OF PRESIDENT RENE'S SEYCHELLES PEOPLES UNITED PARTY. TRAINING WAS CARRIED OUT AT SEVERAL DIFFERENT CAMPS, INCLUDING THOSE OPERATED BY FRELIMO IN PERIOD BEFORE MOZAMBICAN IN-DEPENDENCE. SOME TRAINEES WERE "ADVENTURERS" WHO HAD EXPECTED TO BECOME PARTICIPANTS IN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

2. AIR COMOROS DC-4 AIRCRAFT VISITED SEYCHELLES BRIEFLY JUNE 19.
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 VICTOR 00355 211718Z

ACCORDING SEVERAL EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNTS, PLANE WAS SURROUNDED BY SECURITY FORCES AND SEVERAL LARGE CRATES WERE OFF-LOADED INTO THREE POLICE TRUCKS AND DRIVEN OFF UNDER ARMED ESCORT. AIRCRAFT ARRIVED FOUR DAYS AFTER MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TOURISM SINON AND COMOROS' ROVING AMBASSADOR YVES LE BRET SIGNED JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON COOPERATION IN COMMERCE, COMMUNICATIONS AND FISHERIES. LE BRET ALSO CALLED ON PRESIDENT RENE AND OTHER OFFICIALS DURING HIS VISIT.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MILITARY TRAINING IS CONTINUING FORCAREFULLY SCREENED MEMBERS OF RECENTLY ESTABLISHED PEOPLE'S MILITIA. ACCORDING OFFICIAL FIGURES, 1055 SECHELLOIS VOLUNTEERED FOR MILITIA DUTY IN FIRST
FOUR DAYS OF RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN. MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE JACQUES HODOUL (ANOTHER COUP ORGANIZER) TOLD ME JUNE 21 THAT MOST CAPABLE (AND PRESUMABLY RELIABLE) MILITAMEN WOULD BE ORGANIZED INTO "SMALL ARMY" TO SUPPLEMENT130-MAN SPECIAL FORCE AND TRAINED IRREGULARS.

4. EMBASSY HAS NO INDICATION THAT TANZANIAN OR COMORIAN MILITARY PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT IN SEYCHELLES.

MATTSON

SECRET

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY TRAINING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977VICTOR00355
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770221-0636
Format: TEL
From: VICTORIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770633/aaaabdde.tel
Line Count: 77
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 2d9ae378-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 VICTORIA 329, 77 DAR ES SALAAM 2415
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2076978
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REGIONAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SEYCHELLES
TAGS: PFOR, MOPS, PINS, SE, TZ, CN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/2d9ae378-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009